

THE accession of Jammu & Kashmir to India and the establishment of popular Government created exceptionally favourable conditions for the social and economic advancement of an oppressed and poverty-stricken people. For the first time in the last several centuries an opportunity was offered for the eradication of social and economic ills generated by a long era of misgovernment. It was time to direct all our efforts and thoughts towards the achievement of a happy and prosperous New Kashmir.

Unfortunately, a section of the national leadership deviated from the chosen path of the national organisation. It advocated a course which went totally against the fundamental principles of the National Conference and the declared policies of the popular Government, of which it itself was the chief architect. This dangerous course of action not only blocked the progress of the State but also ~~threatened~~ to touch off a severe crisis in Indo-Kashmir relationship.

At this dangerous moment of the State's history, the patriotic forces inside Kashmir rallied round the National Conference and saved the State from the impending catastrophe.

The establishment of the new Government under Bakhshi Ghulam Mohammad in August 1953 was, indeed, a turning point in the history of the State. This great event created favourable conditions for cementing the State's bonds with India once and for all. In February 1954, six months after the formation of the new Government, the State's democratically-elected Constituent Assembly ratified Kashmir's accession with India, the decision about which had been taken in October 1947. Accordingly, the President of the Union of India issued on April 13, 1955, the Constitution (Application to Jammu & Kashmir) Order 1954. The Order defined, in constitutional terms, the relations of the State with India, finalised the relationship thereby putting a seal on people's verdict of accession.

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The Constituent Assembly's ratification of the State's accession with India ended the agonising uncertainty about the future disposition of the State. It created confidence in all parts of the State and among all sections of the people. It was this sense of certainty and the series of reforms introduced by the present Government which brought about a significant change in the situation inside the State.

As soon as the present Government came to power, it adopted several measures for alleviating the economic distress of the people. The price of paddy, staple food of the people, was slashed down to a limit which was on level with the purchasing capacity of our people. The levy procurement system of foodgrains, which was at the root of the discontent of the peasant masses, was abolished. The customs barrier between the State and the rest of India was removed. Education was made free from primary to University standards. During the first year of the Government alone there was an increase of over 26% in the number of educational institutions and of about 30% in the budget for education. The development of the backward area of Ladakh received special attention of the Government. A network of irrigation canals was spread over the State. Vast schemes for eliminating the danger of floods were taken in hand.

At present the Government is bending all its energies and directing all resources at its disposal for raising the living standards of the people and for developing the State's economy towards prosperity and plenty.

Following is a resume of the progress registered by the State in various spheres of activity :

EDUCATION

DURING the last two years several radical reforms have been introduced in the educational sphere in Jammu & Kashmir. These reforms have aimed at making education cheap and widespread and giving it a new shape.

In 1953 the Government declared education free throughout the State from Primary to the University stage—a step quite unprecedented in the history of educational

development in India. This measure was accompanied by an increase of about 40% in the number of educational institutions and about 70% in the budget for education, thus benefiting over 1.5 lakh students. Various types of institutions, such as Primary Schools, Central Schools, Middle Schools, High Schools, Colleges, "Maktabas" and "Pathshalas", catering to the varying needs of people have been opened to accelerate educational activities.

It has been the policy of the present Government to make education universal so that no part of the State remains outside the orbit of the programme for cultural development. Mobile schools for backward sections of people like *Gujars* and *Bakarwals* who move from place to place have been opened. A sum of Rs. 1 lakh has been sanctioned for scholarships payable at all levels to students belonging to backward classes particularly those coming from Ladakh and other far-flung areas. Scholarships have also been granted from the Prime Minister's fund to deserving students.

Women's Education: Another important aspect of educational development, namely, women's education, has also received considerable attention. The gulf between male and female education was very wide and keeping this in view several measures have been taken to spread female education. New institutions have been opened and training centres set up where refresher courses in home science are arranged under the guidance of expert lady teachers whose services are borrowed from outside. The lady teachers are trained in domestic activities, such as tailoring, needlework, laundry, cooking, painting, health and hygiene, etc. There has been a steady increase in the number of female institutions. The number of colleges for girls has been raised from 1 to 2, high schools from 4 to 24, primary schools from 176 to 234 and the central schools (including middle schools) number thirty.

Men's Education: There are at present 1,286 primary schools, 74 high schools, 169 middle and central schools besides six colleges. There are two training colleges (both men and women) and five training schools where teachers receive instruction in teaching. Training classes have also been opened in far-flung areas like Poonch

and Kargil. An Educational Officer has been appointed in each Tehsil for ensuring effective and close inspection of primary and middle schools and also to impart training to teachers in these institutions.

Science Teaching : The colleges have been sufficiently equipped with science apparatus to meet the growing demand for teaching in science. A sum of Rs. 1 lakh has been allotted in addition to the normal grants for provision of extra apparatus and other equipment for laboratories in the educational institutions. For construction of buildings for schools and hostels, a grant of Rs. 5 lakhs has been sanctioned. The strength of the teaching staff for science subjects has been increased resulting in a considerable increase in the number of students admitted to science classes. An Arts College has been established at Jammu and the Government Gandhi Memorial College Jammu has been turned into a science college at an additional cost of Rs. 1,20,820 which includes Rs. 75,800 as recurring expenditure. The Private College for Women at Jammu which was not able to make much progress has been taken over by the Government and housed in a suitable building and provided with sufficient grants. The Srinagar College for Women is well-equipped in all respects and is functioning efficiently.

Private Institution : The policy of the present Government has been to help private institutions so that private enterprise in education receives due encouragement. The St. Joseph's College, which had closed down following the 1947 invasion, has been re-opened and converted into a Degree College as a result of the liberal grants placed at the disposal of the College Management by the State Government. A yearly grant-in-aid of Rs. 15,000 has also been sanctioned by the Government for the Gandhi Memorial College, Srinagar, which is managed privately.

The grants-in-aid of about Rs. 2 lakhs are being paid to private institutions. Six high schools, 29 middle and primary schools, one girls' college and eight girls' schools have benefited in this way.

In view of the importance of extramural activities, the educational authorities are giving extra attention to

this side of education. Sports like swimming, boating, volley ball and jumping are a feature of the outdoor activities of the students. Recently a Youth Leadership Training Camp was organised at Pahalgam, 60 miles from Srinagar, in which teachers of various schools and colleges participated. The programme of the Camp lasted over a week. During this period the youths took part in hiking, held debates and discourses and read papers on youth discipline and other matters pertaining to students' welfare.

Junior Red Cross: Recently a refresher course for Junior Red Cross was organised in Srinagar. It lasted over a week. Teachers from various schools (both men and women) received training in Red Cross work at this centre. The object of this refresher course was to train up the teachers so that they prove resourceful enough in promoting social welfare activities among students.

The Education Department of the State believes in associating teachers with the educational policy of the Government so that with their active co-operation the results aimed at are achieved. As the Education Minister Mr. G.M. Sadiq, has put it "By associating the teachers and other educationists with the framing of the educational policies of the State we can achieve more positive results....." Several educational symposiums have been held during the last few months in pursuance of this objective.

Future Policy: A draft outline of the new educational policy which the State Government wants to adopt has recently been circulated for eliciting the opinion of educationists and teachers. Referring to the problems facing the State in the sphere of education the draft statement says, "We are faced with a number of educational problems in the State which must find their solution through concerted efforts of the Government and the people. The basic problem is that of introducing universal primary education for all our children of the school-going age. The age-group and the duration and content of elementary courses of instruction must be governed by our need and resources. It is a colossal problem which cannot be solved

in a day. At present not more than 1.5 lakhs are at school against an estimated school-going population of about $7\frac{1}{2}$ lakhs in the age-group 7 to 12. Against about 1,500 schools at present about 6,000 schools, and 18,000 teachers and the necessary complement of buildings, playgrounds, equipment and so on, are needed". This is about introducing universal primary education. Then there are other aspects of the plan such as secondary education, college education, technical education, teaching university, physical education, cultural activities, medium of instruction, etc. which are discussed in detail. All these aspects have come for discussion at the educational conferences organised from time to time by the State Teachers' Association.

In the State's Second Five-Year Plan a much bigger allotment of funds that could be possible under the First Five-Year Plan is being made for expansion of educational facilities.

AGRICULTURE

KASHMIR'S economy is mainly agricultural. More than 80% of its population depends on land for its livelihood. Abolition of landlordism in all its forms and transfer of land to the tiller without payment of compensation to the landlords are the first broad steps in the execution of the new agricultural policy being followed in the State. The land reforms introduced are to be followed by measures to encourage co-operative association among the agricultural population in their economic pursuits.

The system of compulsory collection of grains which was in force in the State and which impoverished the peasants was abolished in 1953 soon after the present Government took over. The producer is now free to sell whatever quantities of his produce he likes to the Government. Side by side with this, in order to remove near-famine conditions, created as a result of a wrong and unscientific food policy pursued by the previous regime, the scale of food rations has been increased by 25%. The number of people under rationing has been increased by over 25,000. To meet this increased demand

for foodgrains about 12,00,000 maunds of paddy, wheat and rice were obtained from the Centre immediately. Vigorous efforts are also being made to make the State self-sufficient in foodgrains and already over eighteen thousand acres of additional land have been brought under cultivation. Under the Second Five-Year Plan it is proposed to cultivate over a lakh acres more through new irrigation projects.

Various other schemes for agricultural development including those pertaining to research have also been planned and put into operation at a cost of over Rs. 20.00 lakhs under the First Plan. Model farms have been set up and fruit nurseries laid out in different parts of the State. Research is being conducted in respect of various soils and production of better variety of seeds. For the first time use is being made of chemical fertilizers which are being supplied to cultivators on easy terms.

ANIMAL HUSBANDRY

DEVELOPMENT and preservation of livestock is receiving the emphasis it deserves. The expenditure on Animal Husbandry has been raised from Rs. 3 lakhs to about Rs. 24.38 lakhs. There are at present 56 units functioning in different parts of the State to provide veterinary assistance to the people.

PANCHAYATS

PANCHAYATS have been revitalised. Their activities today cover all aspects of rural life. Most of the rural development works are pushed through by the villagers themselves. Such effort takes the form of road-building, reconstruction, desilting, repairing and digging out irrigation canals, etc.

CO-OPERATIVES

RURAL credit in the State was completely shattered before the present Government took over. The Co-operative movement has now been put on a new footing and co-operative debts in cases of distress have been

written off to the tune of Rs. 36,00,000. Arrangements are now afoot for raising a loan of about Rs. 35,00,000 from the Reserve Bank of India for the provision of rural credit.

INDUSTRIES

KASHMIR though rich in industrial potential had remained underdeveloped during the whole span of foreign rule in India. The industrious and hard working Kashmiri artisan, famed for his magnificent skill, however, crossed several hurdles and created through perseverance and toil the edifice of a cottage and small-scale industry inside the State. This industry embraced such world-renowned arts and crafts as papier mache, wood-carving, embroidery, shawl-making etc. Subsequently better transport facilities and electric power facilitated the growth of several other industries, though their share in the total production of national wealth remained infinitely small.

The abolition of customs duty on goods brought into the State from India in April 1954 has opened new avenues for the development of trade and industries of Jammu & Kashmir. The woollen, silk, rosin, turpentine and drug industries have been re-organised and their production has gone up considerably. Liberal assistance is being given to handicrafts and cottage industries which had suffered much on account of lack of attention. Marketing facilities have been increased and put on an organised basis.

Over 200 production-cum-demonstration centres have been opened in various parts of the State where new and improved methods of production and designing are evolved for the benefit of artisans and craftsmen. A chain of Government-controlled arts emporia has been set up in various parts of India.

A Paints and Minerals Factory has been started in Jammu. The Factory also processes China clay, gypsum, soapstone, etc. A Carpet Factory has also been opened in the Valley. The Factory will manufacture quality

carpets for supply to the State Emporium and for foreign markets.

A modern Tannery was established near Srinagar last year. The Tannery will utilise the hides and skins which used to be exported from the State in large quantities.

The well-known Pashmina industry of the State was suffering for want of adequate supplies of Pashmina wool at reasonable rates. The present Government came forward to remove the difficulty and helped organise a Pashmina Syndicate to which it granted interest-free loan of Rs. 5,00,000. The Government is also assisting the local handloom silk industry. About 700 looms are being supplied to weavers at concessional rates. This measure involves an expenditure of Rs. 4,00,000.

Loans totalling about Rs. 15 lakhs have been given to small traders and craftsmen since August 1953 for their rehabilitation in their respective trades and occupations. Loans have also been advanced to cottage and small-scale industries.

A Joinery Mill has been set up in Kashmir. The factory is a unique venture, as very few such industries exist outside Europe and North America. The factory has an installed capacity for the manufacture of 36,000 doors and 36,000 windows which, on an average, should mean a turnover of goods worth Rs. 35 lakhs per year.

Various measures have been taken to further develop the Drug Industry of the State. The Government has decided to take up the work of Farm-cultivation of drugs on an extensive scale. The small experimental farm in Kashmir comprising 100 acres of land has been extended to over 300 acres. Improved varieties of seeds have been imported from abroad through the good offices of UNESCO and these seeds are being propagated.

A Drug Manufacturing Factory has been set up at Srinagar. This factory will process and convert into semi-finished form the barks available in Kashmir. These will be finally treated at Jammu before put on the market.

HEALTH

THE health services and medical aid facilities have registered considerable progress. The main emphasis has been laid on the expansion and availability of these facilities in the far-flung and backward areas of the State.

Services of experts from India have been borrowed to accelerate the public health activities. Vaccination campaigns have been launched against such abominable and deadly diseases as venereal diseases, T.B., Eye diseases, Typhus, Malaria, etc., some of which have been prevalent in certain areas of the State in an epidemic form. As a result of these activities there has been a significant increase in the budget for public health as is clear from the following figures:—

<i>Year</i>	<i>Normal Budget</i>	<i>Expansion Budget</i>	<i>Total</i>
1953-54	23.41 lakhs	4 lakhs & 75 thous.	28.16 lakhs
1954-55	26.5 lakhs	16.5 lakhs	43 lakhs
1955-56	26.3 lakhs	16.871 lakhs	43.17 lakhs

One of the very first steps taken by the present Government was to abolish operation fees levied in State hospitals. Along with this operation and X-ray apparatus were considerably expanded so as to cope with growing needs of people in this respect.

B.C.G. Campaign: A mass B. C. G. vaccination campaign was launched in both the provinces of the State. Till June, 1955 10,12,668 persons had been tested and 4,06,566 vaccinated under the campaign.

A 21-bed T.B sanatorium has been established at Batote at a cost of Rs. 20,000. The diet scale in the chest-diseases hospitals has been increased both at Srinagar and Jammu. Kindergarten classes and occupational therapy have been opened for the amusement of the patients. The bed strength of T.B. hospital Kashmir has been increased from 85 to 150 and that of the sanatorium from 15 to 50. The bed strength of Batote sanatorium has been raised to 30. A deep X-ray unit has been installed in Srinagar hospital. This has

immensely helped the patients who had otherwise to go outside the State for deep X-ray therapy.

An anti-Typhus campaign was launched under a trained Epidomologist last year at a cost of Rs. 25,000. The organisation consisted of six inspectors and 12 disinfectors under the control of a trained epidomologist. As a result of this campaign not a single case of typhus has been reported during the last one year.

To combat Malaria a vigorous campaign with the help of the Central Government has been started. The campaign is to continue for three years at an estimated expenditure of Rs. 11 lakhs. Over a hundred workers under Malaria Inspectors are in the field carrying on the campaign.

An anti-V.D. campaign on mass scale has been launched in Jammu province and the results have been satisfactory.

Mobile Medical Unit: With a view to making medical aid and advice available to the villager at his very door a mobile medical unit has been set up. The unit will work for six months in Jammu and six months in Kashmir.

A mobile ophthalmological unit sponsored by the Central and State Governments worked in the Valley this summer. Four 100-bed camp hospitals were set up in Anantnag, Baramulla, Badgam and Shopian, where the unit worked. The unit treated about 20,000 people and performed over a thousand eye operations. The State Government is now setting up a similar medical unit permanently to eradicate eye diseases of various types discovered in rural areas of the State.

Medical Aid for Ladakh: Ladakh is a far-flung area of the State. Formerly, there was no proper arrangement for medical aid there. Two dispensaries have been opened at Leh under the Community Development Scheme. The building for the dispensary at Leh has been constructed at a cost of Rs. 70,000. Another sum of Rs. 1,28,000 has been earmarked for the construction of three dispensaries in Leh and Kargil during 1955-56.

A unit consisting of venerealogists and other staff has been deputed to Ladakh to make a survey of venereal diseases in that area in preparation for starting a mass anti-V.D. campaign there. A sum of Rs. 1 lakh is being spent by the Government annually on anti-V.D. campaign in areas where the disease occurs.

In order to keep the hospitals and dispensaries fully equipped with medicines and appliances, an additional grant of Rs. 5 lakhs has been allotted. In addition to this, a grant of Rs. 3 lakhs over and above the normal grant for main hospitals and other medical institutions has been allotted for the year 1955-56 for this purpose.

Blood banks form an essential part of a well-equipped modern hospital. These have been established in the Central Hospitals at Srinagar and Jammu at a cost of Rs. 20,000.

FIRST FIVE-YEAR PLAN

Library of ~~the~~ College,
Srinagar.

THE actual implementation of the First Five-Year Plan of Jammu & Kashmir was taken up only after the changeover of Government in August 1953. Soon after the new Government took over the Plan was revised in consultation with people's representatives and outlay increased from Rs. 10 crores to 12.74 crores. An abstract statement indicating the distribution of the Plan Provision among various heads is given below :—

S. No.	Head of Work	Plan Provision 1951-56 (Rs. in lakhs)
1.	Power	295.08
2.	Irrigation	268.68
3.	Road Development	254.97
4.	Rural and Urban Water Supply	99.76
5.	Tourism	50.46
6.	Cottage and Small-Scale Industries	83.12
7.	Agriculture	20.34
8.	Animal Husbandry	24.38
9.	Drug Farming	8.48
10.	Soil Conservation	9.92
11.	Forest Works	6.85
12.	Housing	13.32
13.	Health Services	44.83
14.	Education	66.06
15.	Miscellaneous	27.50
		Total... 1,274.15

Irrigation : With a view to reducing the food deficit a number of small canals and lift-irrigation schemes were taken in hand. Some of these have already been completed and have brought under cultivation over 18,000 acres of land. It is hoped that by the end of the First Five-Year Plan period over 5,000 acres of land more would have been brought under cultivation.

Roads : In building new roads and improving existing ones good results have been achieved as will be clear from the following figures :—

Improvement and development of existing roads. ...	219 miles.
New roads constructed. ...	225 miles.

Power : The Rs. 2 $\frac{1}{4}$ crore Sind Hydro-Electric Project has almost been completed and power from it made available to several parts of the city of Srinagar. The Project will, in the first instance, generate electricity amounting to 6,000 Kw.

Jogindernagar Scheme : Power in bulk has been purchased from the Punjab Government at a total cost of Rs. 39.00 lakhs. The Project was started during the Plan period and was completed in December, 1954, when the line was energised.

Other Power Projects : There are a few other small power Projects like those at Udhampur, Basohli, Ramnagar and Rajouri estimated to cost a total of Rs. 20.86 lakhs. Work on these projects is well in hand and it is expected that these towns will receive power by the end of the First Plan period.

Agriculture and Animal Husbandry : For agricultural development our target is to have as many farms in the State as there are tehsils. These farms would have three functions : demonstration, research and development. There are a number of other schemes which the Agricultural Department is operating in co-operation with the I.C.A.R.

Animal husbandry has received considerable emphasis in the Plan, the total cost of the schemes being over Rs. 24.38 lakhs against the normal budgetary annual provision of Rs. 3 lakhs or so before 1953. The main characteristic of the animal husbandry development scheme is the establishment of two Central Cattle Development Farms and three Wool Development Farms. In addition to these schemes, for demonstration and improvement of the livestock in rural areas, 14 tehsil units and 42 sub-units are being set up in the State.

Transport : The Jammu & Kashmir Government Transport Service was started in 1947-48 and since then it has registered tremendous progress.

Special attention has been paid to the re-organisation of passenger services and modern de-luxe buses have been put on the road for the benefit of tourists.

In order to stimulate tourist traffic concessions were provided for the tourists in the shape of cheap return-tickets costing Rs. 27/- per passenger for journey between Pathankot, Srinagar and back covering a distance of about 540 miles in round trip. This concession has proved very attractive and the transport service has catered for about 30,000 tourists during this season. Special arrangements were made for making the road journey of tourists comfortable in all respects.

Another achievement of the Government Transport Department is the introduction of City Services in Srinagar and Jammu. The City Services in both these Cities have proved very successful.

It will be interesting to note that in Srinagar City 18,23,052 passengers made use of the city bus services during the last one year or so. The total earnings of the Department on this account amounted to Rs. 2,91,457/12.

Regular services are run to the various places of sight-seeing in Valley and now it has become very easy and cheap for the tourists to visit all these places with comfort and economy.

Over and above this, the Transport Department was called upon to transport huge quantities of foodgrains and other essential commodities from the Pathankot railhead to Srinagar and Jammu. The vehicles of the Department carried about 21,30,225 maunds of foodgrains and other commodities to the State in record time and earned about Rs. 74,75,532 as fare and freight.

Tourism : Kashmir is known as a tourists' paradise and tourism is one of the State's major industries. Concerted efforts have been made by the Government to attract more and more tourists to the Valley and provide them with increased facilities.

The following are some of the improvements which have been made in various directions for promoting the tourist industry in the State :—

- (1) *Tourist Information :* (a) In order to afford facilities to the tourists a number of Tourist Offices have been opened in the

important towns of Bombay, Calcutta, Delhi and Pathankot. These offices provide information to intending tourists to Kashmir and also make available to them necessary assistance for their trip.

(b) Several pamphlets and folders giving ready information about places of interest, games, hotel charges etc. have been published and are made available to tourists to Kashmir.

- (2) Rates for boats, tongas, taxis and ponies etc. have been fixed.
- (3) Firms not having a good reputation about their dealings with tourists have been black-listed and all incoming tourists are warned not to have any dealings with these firms.
- (4) A large number of notice boards have also been put up at various places giving therein information, directions and other matters of interest to tourists.
- (5) *Transport* : Better transport facilities have been made available. A fleet of new vehicles—Tourist Buses, Station Wagons etc.—have been put on the road for comfort of the tourists.
- (6) *Dak Bungalows* : Some of the Dak Bungalows on the Jammu-Srinagar road have been renovated and accommodation available increased. Catering arrangements have also been improved. Tourist Huts all over the Valley have been repaired and steps taken to build new ones at places of tourist interest,
- (7) *Loans to Houseboat-Owners* : The houseboat-owners were badly hit owing to sudden collapse of tourist traffic to the State during 1947. The Government have helped the houseboat-owners by giving them loans for improvement of their houseboats. Quite a few houseboats are now sanitary-fitted.
- (8) *Reception Centre* : Work on the construction of a Rs. 12 lakh Tourist Reception Centre has been started and it is expected to be completed by the end of April, 1956. The Centre will be the first of its kind in Asia and will, besides providing all information and assistance to tourists at one place, serve as a transit camp for them.
- (9) More places of tourist interest are being opened up. Already, two new centres, namely, Lolab and Yus Maidan, have been opened.
- (10) *Classification of Houseboats* : Houseboats have been classified during the last few years into Special, A, B, and C categories with varying rates fixed for each category by the Tourist Department to enable the tourists of different tastes to choose a boat according to their own standards.

- (11) *Clubs* : Nagin Club has recently been opened and arrangements made for European music.
- (12) Improvements have been effected in Moghul Gardens.
- (13) *Gulmarg* : Gulmarg popularly known as the "Queen of the hill Stations" and possessing one of the finest Golf Courses in the world has regained its pristine glory during the last few years and attracted more and more players. The number of hotels has recently been increased and the tourists have found a number of varieties for their entertainment in the Gulmarg Club which is being improved in more respects than one from year to year. As a centre of Golf Tournaments the place has attracted the attention of Golfers all over the world. A number of huts which were previously reserved by the Public Works Department have been transferred to the Tourist Department.
- (14) *Pahalgam* : A small power generating plant has been set up for electrification of this health resort. A ninehole Golf Course for the convenience of Golfers has also been opened. Considerable improvements have been effected in Pahalgam Club. A Reception-cum-transport office with a tourists lounge and a Youth Hostel for youths are under construction.
- (15) *Shri Amarnathji Yatra* : The holy cave has been attracting more and more tourists during the last some years. Better arrangements have been made for pilgrims from Pahalgam onwards.
- (16) *Ganderbal Camping Grounds* : The Camping Grounds at Ganderbal have been further improved.

These measures have resulted in an unprecedented increase in the number of tourists to Kashmir. Over 47,000 tourists visited the Valley till the end of Oct. 1955.

SECOND FIVE-YEAR PLAN

Pravda
Moscow

THE Second Five-Year Plan of Jammu & Kashmir aims at securing a co-ordinated and balanced development of the economy of the State with a view to ensuring better standard of living for its people. This is sought to be achieved by increasing industrial and agricultural production and opening up of new and more avenues for better and fuller employment. The Plan is estimated to cost approximately Rs. 35 crores spread over a period of five years from April, 1956. Funds are being provided by the Government of India to this extent. Besides the ceiling of Rs. 35 crores as agreed to by the Planning Commission, schemes are also under consideration for the provision of funds in respect of :

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| (i) | Flood Control | ... | about 350 lakhs |
| (ii) | Large and Medium Scale Industries | ... | Rs. 127 lakhs |
| (iii) | Size reduction of Lignite carbonization, briquetting and cement making from lignite ash. | | The schemes in respect of lignite are dependent upon workable reserves of lignite to be determined. Funds required would be provided accordingly. |
| | (The lignite deposits are at present being investigated by the Geological Survey of India.) | | |
| (iv) | Power and Steam generation for Lignite. | | |

The Government of India has also under consideration setting up of a paper pulp industry in the State. The Commerce and Industry Ministry has undertaken to make a survey in this behalf.

Funds are also expected to be provided separately for Urban Water Supply and Environmental Sanitation.

Schemes are also under consideration of the Planning Commission in respect of ¹⁾ Employees Insurance and ²⁾ Employment Exchanges. Necessary provision of funds will be made when the schemes are approved by the Ministry of Labour.

Jammu and Kashmir State is backward economically as compared with most other States in India and progress on development activities has been slow during the first Plan period. The State is deficit in food production and is importing rice and selling it to consumers at subsidized rates. The occupational structure of the population shows predominance of agriculture. The pressure of population on land is fairly high. There is a deficit of about 42.52 lakh maunds of food grains in the State, the position being very acute in the Kashmir Province. To attain self-sufficiency in food production, harnessing of water resources is of utmost importance.

The Plan is, therefore, designed to provide for extension of irrigational facilities on a vast scale. All the existing water resources will be appropriately harnessed to the best advantage of the people and effective steps taken by way of desilting of rivers, bund-raising and digging up of diversions to avert the disasters caused by floods. Huge fertile tracts of land are washed away by erosion. Elaborate schemes have been included to check this evil. The Plan also includes schemes which are expected either to bring more land under cultivation or change lands from dry to wet. Improvements in methods of cultivation by extensive use of chemical fertilizers and better seeds are also envisaged. Schemes have been formulated for improving the quality of the cattle wealth. Improved credit facilities for the agriculturist form an important feature of the schemes.

The means of communication in the State are very backward and the cost of transport of material to distant areas, particularly Kishtwar and Leh, is prohibitive. In the absence of a railway in the State, development of roads has considerable importance both for reaching the outside world and also for internal communications. Jammu Province is mostly hilly and the towns are far flung. Road development under the Plan is, therefore, designed to satisfy the following objectives :

- (i) Opening up of new areas,
- (ii) Development of tourist resorts,

- (iii) Opening up of areas holding promise of mineral wealth, and
- (iv) Connecting the interior with the main arteries of trade.

Industrial development of the State has not so far received much attention. In order to ensure a substantial increase in the money incomes of the people and to relieve pressure on land, the need for providing additional occupational facilities is obvious. This has been done by providing funds for various Cottage, Medium and Small Scale Industries including Industrial Co-operatives. Cottage industries in the State, particularly in Kashmir, where they give work to about 30,000 people either on whole time or a part time basis, will be improved so as to stabilize employment and to increase the money income of the people employed. Schemes have been formulated to provide cheap raw materials and increased and improved facilities for marketing cottage industries products.

In the field of large scale industry, Forests and Sericulture, efforts will be made to exploit as much as possible the advantages we possess in the shape of raw material, skill and tradition. The existing factories of the Government which are fairly old now are proposed to be developed in respect of equipment and organization.

Tourist industry in the State has a special significance. Several aspects connected with the development of this industry have been taken into consideration in formulating the Plan. These, for instance, involve improvements in roads, opening up of new health resorts, better board and lodging arrangements and efficient services for receiving and guidance of visitors.

The State is very backward educationally, and although the expenditure on education has been increased by more than 200 per cent—the education budget during the last two years has been about 100 lakhs annually—we feel that we have as yet just touched a fringe of the immense problem. More than 90 per cent of the population of the State is illiterate. Without steady increase in the number of educational institutions, free tuition as at present from primary to post-graduate classes would

be meaningless. Opening of primary schools underlines the need for the opening of secondary schools and other educational institutions at higher levels. Apart from an increase in the number of educational institutions at various levels, the Plan envisages conversion of the Jammu and Kashmir University into a full-fledged teaching and residential University, opening of one Polytechnic and four junior technical schools.

The State has achieved tangible results in respect of several devices calculated to promote public health like the opening of hospitals and dispensaries and the completion of drinking water supply schemes at many places. But nothing could for obvious reasons be done in regard to the introduction of better sewerage and drainage systems in the cities of Srinagar and Jammu whose population is 2.30 lakhs and 0.63 lakhs respectively. Emphasis has, therefore, been placed in the Plan on sewerage and drainage schemes for the two cities. It is also proposed to tap the Sindh Valley Canal for augmenting supply of drinking water to the city of Srinagar, sink more tube wells in Jammu and provide water works in towns where there are no such arrangements or where the existing arrangements are unhygienic. The Plan includes schemes for the expansion of bed strength of the existing hospitals and dispensaries, opening of more allopathic, Unani and Ayurvedic dispensaries and provision of better and more modern apparatus and medicines. It is also proposed to set up a college with adequate facilities for imparting training in medical profession.

The schemes for the development of backward areas envisage all round economic development of Poonch and Doda in the Jammu Province and Lolab and Karnah in the Kashmir Province and the Ladakh District.

An important feature of the Plan is the Tehsil development schemes which do not form part of the Departmental Plans.

At present reliable statistical data particularly in reference to agriculture is not available. Accordingly, schemes have been formulated under the Plan for the

improvement of agricultural statistics and the reconstruction of land records among other things.

The State will have 37 Community Project and N.E.S. Blocks by the end of the Second Five-Year Plan. The Blocks are expected to cover the entire State. Every C.P. and N.E.S. Block is expected to benefit by what the Agriculture Department does to improve the yield from land and what the Animal Husbandry Department does for the improvement of Cattle wealth. So also is the case of other beneficent departments.

The Plan envisages a training programme for engineering services. There is already in vogue in the State a system whereunder a large number of residents of the State are deputed for training in various subjects to Indian Universities and abroad. Putting the requirements and the possibilities of trained personnel which will become available during the Plan period together, largest shortage is expected to be experienced in respect of subordinate technical personnel for Engineering Departments. This shortage is being experienced even at the present moment. To overcome this difficulty, the plan envisages starting of a school, where elementary training for nine months would be given to young men in the work which an Overseer, a Surveyor or a Draftsman is expected to do. Similarly schemes for the establishment of Polytechnic have been formulated, which will in due course be converted into an Engineering institute.

In order to relate the Plan closely to local needs and conditions, suggestions mostly received from the people directly through Panchayats and other similar popular institutions have been incorporated in different schemes. Tehsil plans form an important item in the whole scheme. Efforts have been made throughout to emphasize the main aspect that every family is assisted in its efforts to improve its conditions. Similarly the role to be played by local bodies has been defined. They have to develop the local services, augment their own resources and integrate the programme of urban development with other activities under the Plan. Representatives of people in different occupations have been consulted in

determining the objectives and fixing the targets. A research forum has been constituted comprising local experts on various issues involved, which is busy making investigations about how best to implement the Plan.

The machinery for the implementation of the Plan has been considerably geared up during the last year or two. It is expected that the Plan will be successfully implemented and there might even be better results in some respects. In such a case, it might be possible to consider a revision of the Plan after two or three years.

Following is the distribution of the funds under different heads of development :

Head of Development	Jammu Province	Kashmir Province including Ladakh District	Schemes of common interest	Un-allocated	(Rs. in lakhs) Total
I. AGRICULTURE AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT.					
Agricultural Production	43.60	32.14	17.59	...	93.33
Animal Husbandry	28.30	32.75	17.45	...	78.50
Co-operation	8.12	17.69	8.01	...	33.82
Community Project & National Extension Service.	88.00	119.00	...	...	207.00
Fisheries	0.80	4.51	4.69	...	10.00
Forests	49.48	43.17	7.35	...	100.00
Total	218.30	249.26	55.09	...	522.65
II. IRRIGATION POWER AND FLOOD PROTECTION WORKS.					
Irrigation	132.00	350.57	4.18	34.77	521.52
Power	111.16	205.41	30.00	...	346.57
Flood Protection	...	300.00	...	...	300.00
Kathua-Hiranagar-Samba-Jammu-Kandi Canal	1200.00	...	...	...	1200.00
Total	1443.16	855.98	34.18	34.77	2368.09
III. ROADS.					
Roads	231.86	244.41	50.00	36.73	563.00
Road Transport	1.78	8.33	26.89	...	37.00
Total	233.64	252.74	76.89	26.73	600.00

Head of Development	Jammu Province	Kashmir Province including Ladakh District	Schemes of common interest	Un-allocated schemes	(Rs. in lakhs) Total
IV. LARGE AND SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES					
Sericulture	11.88	26.24	21.88	...	60.00
Emporia & Exhibitions	5.00	12.00	23.00	...	40.00
Forest Industries ...	11.00	21.20	...	...	32.20
General Administration	...	...	15.00	...	15.00
Loans to Industries ...	9.00	11.00	...	...	20.00
Drug Research	...	...	10.00	...	10.00
Induscos	...	5.00	...	...	5.00
Schemes coming under the purview of All India Boards	39.50	51.00	29.50	...	120.00
Total	76.38	126.44	99.38	...	302.20
IV. (a) LARGE AND MEDIUM SCALE INDUSTRIES.			40.00	87.00	127.00
V. EDUCATION	94.89	139.81	65.30	...	300.00
VI. HEALTH	99.63	148.74	51.63	...	300.00
VII. HOUSING	...	...	...	100.00	100.00
VIII. OTHER SOCIAL SERVICES.					
Labour & Labour Welfare	...	...	...	7.00	7.00
Welfare of backward classes	...	...	...	41.00	41.00
Social Welfare	...	...	...	9.00	9.00
Total	...	...	...	57.00	57.00
IX. MISCELLANEOUS.					
Development of backward areas	80.00	19.72	...	...	99.72
Plans for Local Bodies	48.50	90.50	...	...	139.00
Tehsil Plans (Kandi Water Supply)	30.00	...	...	55.34	85.34
Tourism	19.50	76.00	4.50	...	100.00
Plan Publicity	...	...	16.00	...	16.00
Statistical Scheme	...	...	10.00	...	10.00
Total	178.00	186.22	30.50	55.34	450.06
Total Second Five Year Plan	2,344.00	1,959.19	452.97	370.84	5,127.00

